

Charter Schools

Charter schools are publicly-funded, tuition-free public schools created through legislation passed in 1994 to provide a learning environment that will improve student achievement and provide additional educational options for parents and students.

State Board for Charter Schools

- In 1996 the Charter Board sponsored 70 schools serving 3,888 students.
- Today, the Board sponsors 516 schools serving over 133,000 students.
 - Receive and review 40+ new applications each year.
 - Process an average of 45 renewal applications each year.
 - Complete over 60 five-year interval reviews each year.

State Board for Charter Schools

Revised Mission Statement (2011)

To improve public education in Arizona by sponsoring charter schools that provide quality educational choices.

- The Board will approve quality applications and grant charters to qualified applicants.
- The Board will increase the quality of its portfolio of charter schools by monitoring academic performance and fiscal and contractual compliance.

Performance Framework

- The Board is developing its performance framework that includes 3 components:
 - Academic – based on performance on state assessments (currently AIMS but will transition with PARCC assessments) and includes the Governor's graduation rate goal for 2020. (draft)
 - Financial (adopted)
 - Operational (draft)

Performance

- Acknowledge quality performance by reducing the application and reporting requirements for charter holders that meet the Board's performance expectations.
- Evaluates performance through interval reviews and sets conditions for which the Board may deny renewal or revoke a charter.

Performance

- 141 charter holders currently on Performance Management Plans.
- Denied renewal of 8 charters since 2010.
- Approved 22 replication applications in 2011 and 2012.

Overall impact: Improve public education in Arizona by sponsoring charter schools that provide quality educational choices.